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You wouldn't head off to work, a meeting, or a big presentation without being prepared. Yet every day, no matter how long or short the trip, drivers head out onto the road without ensuring that their car is well-maintained, their trunk is stocked with essential emergency items, their route is planned and they are physically and mentally prepared to drive. **Driving focused and staying safe** is all a matter of being "road ready."

Road Ready Checklist

-  **Plan your route ahead of time.** There are many websites that provide timely information to assist you in planning your route. To obtain national links for traffic and road conditions, road construction projects, and up-to-date weather reports, visit <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/trafficinfo/index.htm>.
-  **Ensure that your car is in good working order.** A small problem can turn into a big problem on the road. Stay current on all regular maintenance.
 -  Fill your tank with gas
 -  Check all fluids, belts, and hoses
 -  Test tire pressure and tread depth, remember the spare tire *
 -  Replace wiper blades
 -  Check headlights
-  **Keep your trunk stocked with essential items for an emergency.**
 -  Flares
 -  Jumper cables
 -  Flashlight with fresh batteries
 -  Spare tire and jack *
 -  Vehicle owner's manual
 -  Blanket
 -  First aid kit
-  **To avoid problems on the "roads more traveled".**
 -  Give yourself plenty of time to reach your destination.
 -  Be well rested, relaxed and sober.
 -  Share the road safely and courteously with others.
 -  Fasten your seat belt.*
 -  Drive focused and stay safe.